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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

FOR THE

CONSECRATION

OF

RT. REV. CHARLES HAMILTON, M.A.

AS

BISHOP OF NIAGARA,

IN

Christ Church Cathedral, Fredericton,

ON THE

FEAST OF SS. PHILIP AND JAMES,

MAY 1, 1885.



FREDERICTON, N. B.:

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1885.

THE FORM AND MANNER
OF
MAKING, ORDAINING AND CONSECRATING
OF
BISHOPS

ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.



THE PREFACE.

It is evident unto all men diligently reading the holy Scriptures and ancient Authors, that from the Apostles' time there have been these Orders of Ministers in Christ's Church; Bishops, Priests and Deacons. Which Offices were evermore had in such reverend Estimation, that no man might presume to execute any of them, except he were first called, tried, examined, and known to have such qualities as are requisite for the same; and also by public Prayer, with Imposition of Hands, were approved and admitted thereunto by lawful Authority. And therefore, to the intent that these Orders may be continued, and reverently used and esteemed, in the Church of England; no man shall be accounted or taken to be a lawful Bishop, Priest, or Deacon in the Church of England, or suffered to execute any of the said Functions, except he be called, tried, examined, and admitted thereunto, according to the Form hereafter following, or hath had formerly Episcopal Consecration, or ordination.

And none shall be admitted a Deacon, except he be Twenty-three years of age, unless he have a Faculty. And every man which is to be admitted a Priest shall be full Four-and-twenty years old. And every man which is to be ordained or consecrated Bishop shall be full Thirty years of age.

THE FORM
OF
ORDAINING AND CONSECRATING
OF
A BISHOP,

Which is always to be Performed upon some Sunday or Holy Day.



Those who are to take part in the procession will assemble in the Vestry at 10.15 A. M. In the procession the Divinity Students will go first, followed by the Deacons and Priests of the Diocese of Fredericton in their order of seniority. The Clergy of the Diocese of Niagara will come last in their order.

The Bishop-elect will walk in front of the Bishops, last of whom will come the Metropolitan, preceded by his Chaplain bearing the Cross.

The Bishop-elect will proceed to a chair set for him near the throne of the Metropolitan.

The Bishop Coadjutor of Fredericton will proceed to the westernmost sedile on the south.

The Bishop of Maine will proceed to the westernmost chair on the north.

The Bishop of Quebec will proceed to the central sedile on the south.

The Bishop of Nova Scotia will proceed to the easternmost sedile on the south.

The Metropolitan will proceed at once to the Holy Table.

When all things are duly prepared in the Church, and set in order, the Metropolitan shall begin the Communion Service; in which this shall be

The Collect.

ALmighty God, who by thy Son Jesus Christ didst give to thy holy Apostles many excellent gifts, and didst charge them to feed thy flock; Give grace, we beseech thee, to all Bishops, the Pastors of thy Church, that they may diligently preach thy Word and duly administer the godly Discipline thereof; and grant to the people, that they may obediently follow the same; that all may receive the crown of everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

And the Bishop of Nova Scotia shall read the Epistle.

1 Tim. iii. 1.

THIS is a true saying, If a man desire the Office of a Bishop, he desireth a good work. A Bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre, but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; one that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the Church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach, and the snare of the devil.

Then the Bishop of Maine shall read the Gospel.

St. Matth. xxviii. 18.

JESUS came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

Then the Nicene Creed will be recited, after which the Anthem.

[How lovely are the Messengers that preach us the Gospel of peace. To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words.]

Then the Bishop of Quebec will proceed to the pulpit (preceded by two Deacons and his Chaplain) and preach.

During the sermon, the Metropolitan will occupy his Throne outside the Communion rails. The other Bishops will remain at the Holy Table.

The sermon ended, the Bishop of Quebec will return to his sedile, preceded by the Deacons and his Chaplain, as before.

The Deacons will then move the chair of the Metropolitan to the centre of the Sanctuary, to which the Metropolitan now proceeds, and sits down thereon.

The Bishops of Nova Scotia and Quebec will then go to the Communion rails and meet the Bishop-Elect (vested with his Rochet), and leading him, the Bishop of Nova Scotia by the right hand, and the Bishop of Quebec by the left, will present him to the Metropolitan; the Bishop of Nova Scotia, as Senior Bishop, will say the words of presentation.

The Metropolitan will then call for the Certificate of the Election, which he will command to be read.

The Secretary of the Synod will then read the Certificate of Election from the steps, near the Eagle lectern.

This having been read, the Bishop-elect will take the oath of due and Canonical obedience to the Metropolitan of Canada, in the following form:

I CHARLES HAMILTON, chosen Bishop of Niagara, do profess and I, promise all due and canonical reverence and obedience to the Metropolitan of Canada, and his successors in that office: So help me God, through Jesus Christ.

He then kisses the Bible.

Then the Metropolitan shall move the Congregation present to pray, saying thus to them:

BRETHREN, it is written in the Gospel of Saint Luke, That our Saviour Christ continued the whole night in prayer, before he did choose and send forth his twelve Apostles. It is written also in the Acts of the Apostles, That the Disciples who were at Antioch did fast and pray, before they laid hands on Paul and Barnabas, and sent them forth. Let us therefore, following the example of our Saviour Christ, and his Apostles, first fall to prayer, before we admit, and send forth this person presented unto us, to the work whereunto we trust the Holy Ghost hath called him.

The two Bishops then return to their sedilia, the Bishop-elect to the Communion Rail.

And then shall be said the Litany, save only, that after this place, That it may please thee to illuminate all Bishops, &c., this proper Suffrage shall be inserted:

THAT it may please thee to bless this our brother elected, and to send thy grace upon him, that he may duly execute the office whereunto he is called, to the edifying of thy Church, and to the honour, praise, and glory of thy Name ;

Answer. We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Then shall be said this Prayer following :

ALMIGHTY God, giver of all good things, who by thy Holy Spirit hath appointed divers Orders of Ministers in thy Church ; Mercifully behold this thy servant now called to the Work and Ministry of a Bishop ; and replenish him so with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn him with innocency of life, that, both by word and deed, he may faithfully serve thee in this Office, to the glory of thy Name, and the edifying and well-governing of thy Church ; through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.*

Then the Metropolitan, sitting in his chair, shall say to him that is to be Consecrated,

BROTHER, forasmuch as the Holy Scripture and the ancient Canons command, that we should not be hasty in laying on hands, and admitting any person to Government in the Church of Christ, which he hath purchased with no less price than the effusion of his own blood ; before I admit you to this Administration, I will examine you in certain Articles, to the end that the Congregation present may have a trial, and bear witness, how you be minded to behave yourself in the Church of God.

ARE you persuaded that you be truly called to this Ministration, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the order of this Realm ?

Answer. I am so persuaded.

The Metropolitan.

ARE you persuaded that the holy Scriptures contain sufficiently all Doctrine required of necessity for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ ? And are you determined out of the same holy Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge ; and to teach or maintain nothing as required of necessity to eternal salvation, but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the same ?

Answer. I am so persuaded, and determined, by God's grace.

The Metropolitan.

WILL you then faithfully exercise yourself in the same holy Scriptures, and call upon God by prayer, for the true understanding of the same ; so as you may be able by them to teach and exhort with wholesome Doctrine, and to withstand and convince the gainsayers ?

Answer. I will so do, by the help of God.

The Metropolitan.

ARE you ready, with all faithful diligence, to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrine contrary to God's Word ; and both privately and openly to call upon and encourage others to the same ?

Answer. I am ready, the Lord being my helper.

The Metropolitan.

WILL you deny all ungodliness and worldly lusts, and live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world ; that you may shew yourself in all things an example of good works unto others, that the adversary may be ashamed, having nothing to say against you ?

Answer. I will so do, the Lord being my helper.

The Metropolitan.

WILL you maintain and set forward, as much as shall lie in you, quietness, love and peace among all men ; and such as be unquiet, disobedient and criminous within your Diocese, correct and punish, according to such authority as you have by God's Word, and as to you shall be committed by the Ordinance of this Realm ?

Answer. I will so do, by the help of God.

The Metropolitan.

WILL you be faithful in Ordaining, sending, or laying hands upon others ?

Answer. I will so be, by the help of God.

The Metropolitan.

WILL you shew yourself gentle, and be merciful for Christ's sake to poor and needy people, and to all strangers destitute of help?

Answer. I will so shew myself, by God's help.

Then the Metropolitan, standing up, shall say :

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who hath given you a good will to do all these things, Grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same ; that, he accomplishing in you the good work which he hath begun, you may be found perfect and irreprehensible at the latter day ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

This ended, the Bishop-elect retires to assume the rest of the Episcopal habit, while the organ plays a short voluntary.

The Elect, properly vested, returns, and kneels in front of the Metropolitan, and the other Bishops come down and stand on either side of the Metropolitan, who commences the Veni Creator.

COME, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire.
 Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost thy seven-fold gifts impart.

Thy blessed Unction from above,
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.
 Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face
With the abundance of thy grace.
 Keep far our foes, give peace at home :
Where thou art guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And thee, of both, to be but One.
 That, through the ages all along,
This may be our endless song ;

Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

That ended, the Metropolitan shall say :

Lord, hear our prayer.

Answer. And let our cry come unto thee.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY God, and most merciful Father, who of thine infinite goodness hast given thine only and dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer, and the Author of everlasting life ; who, after that he had made perfect our Redemption by his death, and was ascended into heaven, poured down his gifts abundantly upon men, making some Apostles, some Prophets, some Evangelists, some Pastors and Doctors, to the edifying and making perfect his Church ; Grant, we beseech thee, to this thy servant such grace, that he may evermore be ready to spread abroad thy Gospel, the glad tidings of reconciliation with thee ; and use the authority given him, not to destruction, but to salvation ; not to hurt, but to help : so that as a wise and faithful servant, giving to thy family their portion in due season, he may at last be received into everlasting joy ; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, with thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Then the Metropolitan and Bishops present shall lay their hands upon the head of the elected Bishop kneeling before them upon his knees, the Metropolitan saying :

RECEIVE the Holy Ghost, for the Office and Work of a Bishop in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the imposition of our hands ; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.* And remember that thou stir up the grace of God which is given thee by this Imposition of our hands : for God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and love, and soberness.

Then the Metropolitan shall deliver him the Bible, saying :

GIVE heed unto reading, exhortation, and doctrine. Think upon the things contained in this Book. Be diligent in them, that the increase coming thereby may be manifest unto all men. Take heed unto thyself, and to doctrine, and be diligent in doing them : for by so doing thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee. Be to the flock of Christ a shepherd, not a wolf ; feed them, devour them not. Hold up the weak, heal the sick, bind up the broken, bring again the outcasts, seek the lost.

Be so merciful, that you be not too remiss ; so minister discipline, that you forget not mercy : that when the chief Shepherd shall appear you may receive the never-fading crown of glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Metropolitan then proceeds to the Holy Table, and commences the Offertory ; when two deacons advance and remove the chair from the centre of the Chancel to the space at the north end of the Holy Table.

The alms of the people are then collected and brought to the rails and delivered to the Sub-dean, who brings them to the Metropolitan, who offers them.

Then the Metropolitan shall proceed in the Communion-Service ; with whom the new Consecrated Bishop (with others) shall also communicate.

After the Consecration Prayer, Hymn 323 will be sung, all kneeling.

I AM not worthy, Holy Lord,
That Thou should'st come to me ;
Speak but the Word ; one gracious Word
Can set the sinner free.

I am not worthy ; cold and bare
The lodging of my soul ;
How canst Thou deign to enter there ?
Lord, speak, and make me whole !

I am not worthy ; yet, my God,
How can I say Thee nay ?
Thee, Who didst give Thy Flesh and Blood
My ransom-price to pay ?

O come ! in this sweet morning hour
Feed me with Food Divine ;
And fill with all Thy love and power
This worthless heart of mine.

And for the last Collect, immediately before the Benediction, shall be said these Prayers.

MOST merciful Father, we beseech thee to send down upon this thy servant thy heavenly blessing ; and so endue him with thy holy Spirit, that he, preaching thy Word, may not only be earnest to reprove, beseech, and rebuke with all patience and doctrine ; but also may be to

such as believe a wholesome example, in word, in conversation, in love, in faith, in chastity, and in purity ; that, faithfully fulfilling his course, at the latter day he may receive the crown of righteousness laid up by the Lord the righteous Judge, who liveth and reigneth one God with the Father and the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.*

PREVENT us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favour, and further us with thy continual help ; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally by thy mercy obtain everlasting life ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord : And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

After the Metropolitan has pronounced the Blessing, the Nunc Dimittis will be sung, and the procession will return to the Vestry in the same order as before.